## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_\_ DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

Property Name: Waters Chapel United Methodist Church	Inventory Number:	S-250
Address: 29377 Lovers Lane	Historic district:	yes X no
City: Marion Zip Code: 21838	County: Somer	set
USGS Quadrangle(s): Kingston		
Property Owner: Waters Chapel United Methodist Church	Tax Account ID Number:	051293
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 27 Tax Map Nu	mber: 49	
Project: Proposed Tower Site: Marion, Somerset County, Maryland Age	ency: Maryland Dept. of B	ludget and Management
Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company		
Preparer's Name: Stephanie Foell and Stacey Streett	Date Prepared:	3/22/2005
Documentation is presented in: Proposed Tower Site: Marion, Somerset Cou	unty, Maryland	
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: X Eligibility recommend	ed Eligibi	lity not recommended
Criteria: A B X C D Considerations: X A	BCD	_EFG
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resor	urce to a NR district/property	y:
Name of the District/Property:		ш
Inventory Number: Eligible:	yes Listed:	yes
ite visit by MHT Staff yes X no Name:		Date:
Description of Property and Justification: (Please attach map and photo)		
Architectural Description		
Please refer to MIHP Form S-250 for 1987 survey information. The building h	nas been altered since the con	npletion of the previous
form.		
The Waters Chapel United Methodist Church (S-250) is located at 29377 Love		
south side of the lane and faces to the north. It was constructed circa 1910 and Revival and Folk Victorian styles. The asymmetrical configuration of the one-		
wood-frame tower topped with a steeply pitched, polygonal spire, which rises freessed from the façade. The wood-frame chapel is clad in white siding.		
recessed from the raçade. The wood-frame chaper is clad in write siding.		
The main entrance to the chapel is defined by a one-story, pedimented, porch b the tower. Wood posts support the porch overhang, and a flight of poured-conc		
entrance gable is clad in wood shingles.	rete steps reaches the chiralic	e door. The face of the
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW		
Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended	<u> </u>	
Criteria:ABCD Considerations:A	BCD _	EFG
MHT Comments:		
Handred	11-1-	3
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	9 17 / 05 Date	
Para tu	4/4/05	
Reviewer, National Register Program	Date	

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Fenestration throughout consists of pointed-arch, rectangular, and round windows. Centered on the face of the front gable on the façade is a prominent, tripartite, Gothic-arch, colored window; white, wood trim separates the three pointed-arch lights centered below three diamond-shaped lights. In the apex of this gable is a single, diamond-shaped window. A smaller, modified version of the pointed-arch window on the façade is featured on the west elevation, below the extended eave of the front gable. A round, multi-paned window is also on the west elevation, below the side-gabled eave. Adjacent to this window is a multi-pane, pointed-arch window which is below the extended eave of the gable. The south and east elevations are identical to the front gable on the façade containing the tripartite window. The tower on the east elevation is pierced on all four sides by small, rectangular vents.

Wide and extended eaves accentuate the steep pitch of the complex roof, which is clad in wood shingles. Likewise, asphalt shingles comprise the roofing material on the tower. The pyramidal roof of the tower features flared eaves. The mid-section of the tower is skirted by flared eaves as well. Three interior, brick chimneys punctuate the roof.

Interior access was not permitted as part of the present survey. However, the previous survey indicates that the interior has been remodeled, but original woodwork survived at that time.

The landscape surrounding the chapel contains a secondary building. It is a symmetrical, front-gabled building clad in white siding, and asphalt shingles cover the roof. The front lawn contains a white sign for the church. A gravel drive is just to the west of the chapel, which terminates at the front of the church outbuilding. A large, mature deciduous tree is adjacent to the west elevation, obscuring the majority of the cross gable on that corner of the church. Telephone poles alongside Lovers Lane and a variety of mature deciduous and coniferous trees south of the church border the property parcel.

Significance

Introduction

Marion, located in Somerset County, Maryland, is situated approximately six miles north of Crisfield. Marion is a small crossroads community that was established in the middle of the nineteenth century with the construction of the earliest residences. The town developed gradually throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Buildings more than 50 years of age in the Marion vicinity are generally in fair to poor condition. Many of the buildings in the commercial corridor have been altered, most substantially. The busy, four-lane Crisfield Highway (Route 413) bisects Marion and intrudes substantially on the historic character of the town, most notably on the commercial area.

Residential areas radiate out from the commercial area. The residences located closest to the commercial area are generally located along side streets and are closely spaced. However, moving outward from the commercial area, the residences are located on large parcels of land, many of which are actively cultivated. Primary crops include soybeans and corn. Modern poultry farming enterprises are also present.

The earliest buildings in Marion date to the middle of the nineteenth century. The majority of the buildings more than 50 years of age date from the early years of the twentieth century. However, numerous mobile homes and residences constructed within the last 30 years are located in the area.

The topography of Marion is generally flat with substantial stands of trees and forests as well as fields.

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#### History of Marion

Marion is located in what was once a thriving agricultural region. Consequently, it grew into one of the larger villages within Somerset County during the second half of the nineteenth century. John C. Horsey donated a portion of his land for the railroad right-of-way, and in exchange he was allowed to name the resulting town after his daughter Marion. The village served the needs of the surrounding agricultural community. The 1877 Hopkins Atlas shows two carpenter shops, two blacksmiths, and two wagon shops in the town. A general store was located in Marion, and several churches were also established there. Approximately ten residences were located in Marion at this time. Later development was focused on areas south and east of the village.

Strawberries were one of the most important crops grown in Marion as well as other parts of Somerset County. An auction to establish the best possible market prices for strawberries was initiated in Marion in 1911. The auction was soon moved to the neighboring town of Princess Anne. Marion's strawberry crop was sent by rail car to urban markets, including Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. By the mid 1920s, many farmers had started to raise broiler chickens, and the long chicken houses became a common site in Marion and surrounding areas. Around the same time, soybeans became a popular crop among farmers. Depression-era government subsidies encouraged their cultivation, and the crop became even more widespread during World War II, when the need for soybean oil increased government incentives. Today, soybeans and corn are the most prominent crops on the landscape.

In 1914, the Bank of Marion was established. The same year, the organization constructed a new bank building in Marion. The simple building was typical of bank buildings constructed in small towns during this era. The establishment served the other merchants and farmers in the town. It is a good example of classically inspired bank architecture, and is part of the Marion Historic District.

By the end of the first quarter of the twentieth century, Marion suffered a period of decline. References generally point to the growth and prominence of Crisfield and Princess Anne as reasons for Marion's cessation of growth. Today, Marion has a high level of unemployment. Many residents commute to jobs in Salisbury.

#### Architectural Resources in Marion

The earliest residences in Marion date from the middle of the nineteenth century. The houses are primarily modest, typical vernacular farmhouses, often two stories in height with narrow facades. All of the earliest houses have been abandoned and many are in danger of collapse.

Vernacular farmhouses continued to be built in Marion into the first quarter of the twentieth century. I-houses were commonly constructed in the early years of the twentieth century. Many have steeply pitched cross gables superimposed onto the traditional I-house form. Farmhouses of this form are common throughout Maryland. Another prevalent form is a two-story folk Victorian form with a projecting, two-story, three-bay form extending from the façade. This form is commonly seen throughout the Chesapeake Bay area, most notably in Talbot and Somerset Counties. In some cases, the families have moved from the original farmhouses into trailer homes located directly next to the older home. Those that continue to function as residences have been substantially altered.

The majority of buildings more than 50 year of age in Marion date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Houses on smaller lots were the residences of those involved with the commercial activities of the town, such as banking. The houses located further from the center of town are generally larger farmhouses. The larger agricultural plots of land that contain these farmhouses generally lack agricultural buildings or outbuildings associated with agricultural practices. In a few cases, farmsteads contain

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poultry houses of recent construction dates.

Residences on a small segment of Charles Cannon Road are vernacular interpretations of styles and forms more commonly associated with streetcar suburbs of the early twentieth centuries. Some of these include Folk Victorian residences and American Foursquares. These are all on small parcels of land.

The residences which date from the 1930s and 40s are primarily modest cottages, most with enclosed porches. Trailers were placed throughout residential parcels in Marion during the 1960s and 70s. Today, small ranch houses constructed from the 1980s through the present day are prevalent and comprise much of the residential building stock in the vicinity. Other new residences are larger vacation homes along the Big Annemessex River.

The commercial architecture of Marion is typical of what is found in small communities throughout Maryland. There are two, small bank buildings and several small shops. The majority of the buildings have been altered, and approximately 35 percent are vacant and abandoned. Two rail-related buildings are in Marion, a freight station and a passenger station. Both buildings have been altered for use as retail space.

Two other churches in the Marion vicinity are individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places: Quindocqua United Methodist Church (S-123) and St. Paul's Protestant Church (S-79). Both display more high-style features of the Gothic Revival style, and retain high degrees of integrity. Three churches are also within the boundaries of the Marion Historic District (S-270), which has been determined eligible for listing in the National Register. These churches include Handy Memorial, Marion Baptist Church, and the Eastern Shore Evangelistic Church. The Mt. Peer United Methodist Episcopal Church is also located in Marion, but does not appear to be individually eligible for the National Register.

The Methodist religion is historically most concentrated in the Eastern Shore region of Delaware and Maryland (Williams 1997:59). The first rural, African-American Methodist Church was established in 1847 by free African-American slaves in Cumberland, Maryland (Chiat 1997:223). However, rural Methodist chapels were not architecturally ostentatious, but modest gable-end structures, similar to early meetinghouses. Mt. Peer United Methodist Episcopal Church is contemporary with a group of Methodist churches that experienced a distinctive pattern of architecture in the lower Eastern Shore region. During the nineteenth century, Methodist congregations traditionally worshipped in modest, symmetrical, frame buildings.

Determination of Eligibility

The property was evaluated for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. According to the National Register:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or

C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

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D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

The Waters Chapel United Methodist Church is one of the best preserved rural black church buildings in Somerset County. It is a significant example of Gothic Revival and Folk Victorian-era religious architecture. It is consistent with a group of Methodist churches that display a distinctive pattern of architecture in the lower Eastern Shore region. During the nineteenth century, Methodist congregations traditionally worshipped in modest, symmetrical, frame buildings.

The Waters Chapel displays strong similarities to the Quindocqua United Methodist Church (S-123), which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The buildings were constructed at approximately the same time and may be the result of a stock plan or the work of the same builder. Extensive research, including a review of property records, did not yield construction information on the Waters Chapel, but the Quindocqua church was the work of several carpenters: Harold Maddox, Sam Maddox, Howard Hinman, Harold Taylor, Jim Dorsey, and Henry Evans. It is possible that these same men were responsible for building the Waters Chapel. Church records were not made available during this survey, and according to a neighbor, they are incomplete.

Architectural integrity of the Waters Chapel Methodist Church has been affected by several alterations. The distinctive bell tower, a character-defining feature, has been altered by the enclosure of the belfry. The architectural survey in 1987 indicates that the spire was, at that time, supported by four wood posts, which contained decorative sawnwork and spindles. In addition, the pedimented entrance bay is a recent addition to the façade. However, the basic form of the building remains intact, and character-defining fenestration is extant. The integrity of the Waters Chapel is consistent with that of the Quindocqua Church.

The Waters Chapel United Methodist Church is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion Consideration A, which allows the listing of religious properties that derive primary significance from their architectural distinction. The Waters Chapel does not appear to be associated with any significant events or persons that would make it eligible under Criteria A or B. Under Criterion C, the church is eligible as an excellent example of vernacular sacred architecture. It displays many characteristics of Gothic-Revival vernacular religious buildings found on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. While the building has been altered, it continues to convey its original use as an early twentieth century church, and retains character-defining features such as the Gothic-inspired fenestration and picturesque tower.

### Bibliography

Chiat, Marilyn J. America's Religious Architecture: Sacred Places for Every Community. Preservation Press and John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, 1997.

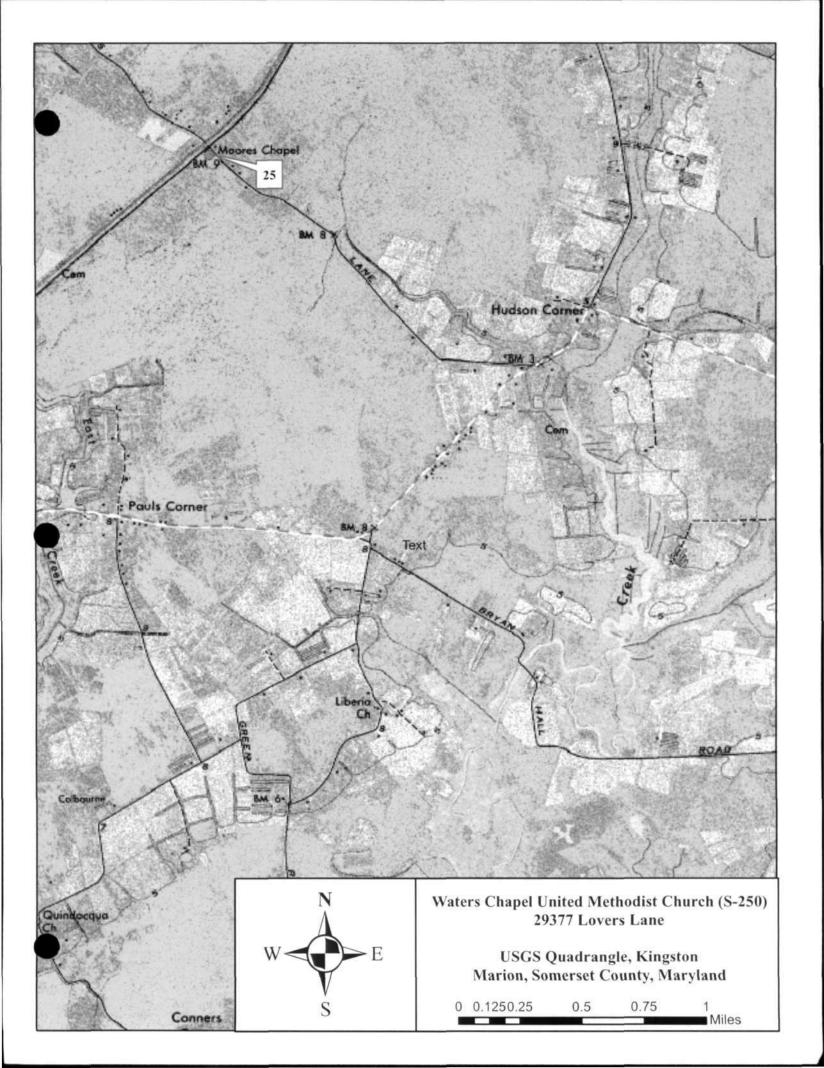
Maryland Historical Trust. Maryland Inventory of Historic Property Forms and National Register of Historic Places Forms for Marion and surrounding areas of southern Maryland.

Maryland's Historic Somerset. Princess Anne, Maryland: Board of Education, 1969.

Touart, Paul Baker. Somerset; An Architectural History. Annapolis: Maryland Historical Trust and Somerset County Historical Trust, Inc., 1990.

Williams, Peter W. Houses of God: Region, Religion, and Architecture in the United States. Series: Public Expressions of Religion in America. Conrad Cherry, ed. University of Illinois Press in cooperation with the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, Indiana University—Purdue University at Indianapolis, 1997.

MARYLAN Eligibility re			TRUST		EW gibility not recommen	ded						
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MIHP# 5-250 Waders Chapel United Medhodist Church Somerset County, MD Stacey Streets March 2005 MD SHPO Facacle, taken from south stele (2+0) 61-2-N N I- 2182 60+ of Loners Lane



MIHP# 5-250 Waters Chapel United Methodist Church Somerset County, MD Storey Street March 2005 MD SHPO close-up of facade, south side of loners lane 2/8



MEHP# 5-250 wasters Chapel United Methodist aurch Somerset County, MD Stacey Streett March 2005 MDSHPO Steeple, North east c



MIHP# 5-250 wasers Chapel united methodist Church Somerset County, MD Stacey Street March 2005 MD SHPO Northeast corner and church hall



M= HP # 5-250 Waters Chapel United Methodist Church Somerset County, MD Stacey Street March 2005 MD SHPO Southeast corner

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MIHP#5-250 Waders Chapel United Methodist Church Somerset County, MD Stacey Street March 2005 MD SHPO South elevation



MIHP# 5-250 Waders Chapel United Medhodist Church Somerset County, MD Stacey Streett March 2005 MD SHPO Church hall, west elevation @ (Zta) 97 8-N N I- 2182 600



MIHP# 5-250 waters Chapel United Methodist Church Somerset County, MD Stacey Street March 2005 MD SHPO West elevation of church @(2+0) 51-8-11 11 1- 2182 S-250 Waters Chapel Church Kingston vicinity Public Workshop c. 1900-1910

Distinguishing Maryland 413 at the intersection of Lover's Lane is Water's Chapel Church, a single-story L-plan Gothic Revival structure deminated by a broach spire. The bell tower is finished with a small iron weathervane topped with a pair of intersecting hearts. Each principal gable of the church is pierced by a tripartite colored glass window that lights the sanctuary. The sanctuary is one large room with the altar and choir stalls located under the west shed roof. To the back (east) of the sanctuary is additional seating space separated by folding paneled doors. The colorfully lighted interior is highlighted by a decorative weoden ceiling of diagonal and horizontal beaded boards divided into a grid pattern. This decorative treatment is similar to the ceiling of the John Wesley M.E. Church on Holland Crossing Road (S-120).

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No. 2002505708

DOE \_\_yes \_\_no

1. Name (indicate pre	eferred name)	Africa series	E. Series and Con-
historic Waters Chapel Churc	chi ca alla co ca	ursa (otub) lega	do amedial s
and/or common	Distance molecule	nd. The c. 1910	Country Mary In
2. Location			. supp talighe
street & number S.E. Corner of	MD 413 and Lov	ers Lane _	not for publication
city, town Kingston	_X_ vicinity of	congressional district	First
state Maryland	county	Somerset	dana are
3. Classification	sandtungy.	olevation of the	a papie-sided p
Category Ownership    district	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible X yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use  agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence X religious scientific transportation other:
name Trustees of Waters C	Chapel Church	telephone n	C. C
	state	and zip code MD 2	backery of subtran
5. Location of Lega			1034
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Some	D accit mosts of	other bring stov	liber
street & number Somerset County			folio
city, town Princess Anne	a a singlu-ator	nolanvela saem	MD
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# 7. Description

Survey No. 250

Condition
\_\_\_ excellent
X good

fair

\_\_\_ deteriorated

unexposed

Check one unaltered X altered Check one
X original site

moved date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Waters Chapel Church stands on the southeast corner of Maryland Route 413 and its intersection with Lovers Lane near Kingston, Somerset County, Maryland. The c. 1910 L-plan Gothic Revival church faces northeast and is accompanied by a single-story church hall of similar date.

The asbestos sheathed frame structure stands on brick piers and is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. A three-story tower rises in the eastern corner and serves as the entrance vestibule.

The northeast (main) facade is dominated by the tower as well as a gable-front elevation of the sanctuary. The tripartite colored glass window is topped by a diamond window located in the upper gable. Eaves project from the face of the front wall. The tower is divided by three distinct levels. The double-leaf door is surmounted by a two-pane pointed arch transom. Piercing the center portion of the tower above the front door is a diamond-shaped colored glass window, and above it is a small gable that interupts the roof line of the tower. The roof curves in slightly before the bellfry which consists of decorative sawnwork and spindles. Each face of the bellfry has a five-sided opening for a clear view of the bell. The octagonal tapered spire terminates with a small iron arrow weathervane topped with a pair of intersecting hearts.

The southeast elevation of the church has the same tripartite colored glass window without an upper gable diamond pane. A narrow brick stove stack protrudes through the roof and retains an unusual vented pyramidal cap.

The southwest elevation is a slightly uneven facade with a jog in the wall surface. The sanctuary is lighted by a third tripartite window, and another brick stove stack rises from the gable end. Extending to the northwest is a shed-roofed section with a separate rear entrance.

The northwest elevation is a single-story facade with a large dormer that interupts the roofline. A round window divided into pie-shaped panes lights the altar space as do flanking pointed sash windows.

The church interior has been partially remodeled, but a large portion of the original woodwork survives. The vestibule is a small room with two-panel doors framed with plain surrounds and bull's eye corner blocks.

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8 Significance

support.

The Waters Chapel Church is one of the best preserved rural black church buildings in lower Somerset County. Several distinguishing exterior and interior decorative features separate this building from the others. The beaded board decorative ceiling is of special interest. It is very similar to a contemporary church on Holland Crossing Road known as John Wesley M.E. Church (S-120).

10. G	eographical Data	Alfander		Acoust Merepart
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11. F	orm Prepared By	Α		
name/title	Paul Touart - Architectural	Historia	an	
organization	Somerset County Historical	Trust dat	te 12/13/	84
street & numb	er 424 N. Somerset Avenue	tele	ephone 651-0	077
city or town	Princess Anne	sta	te MD 218	53

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401

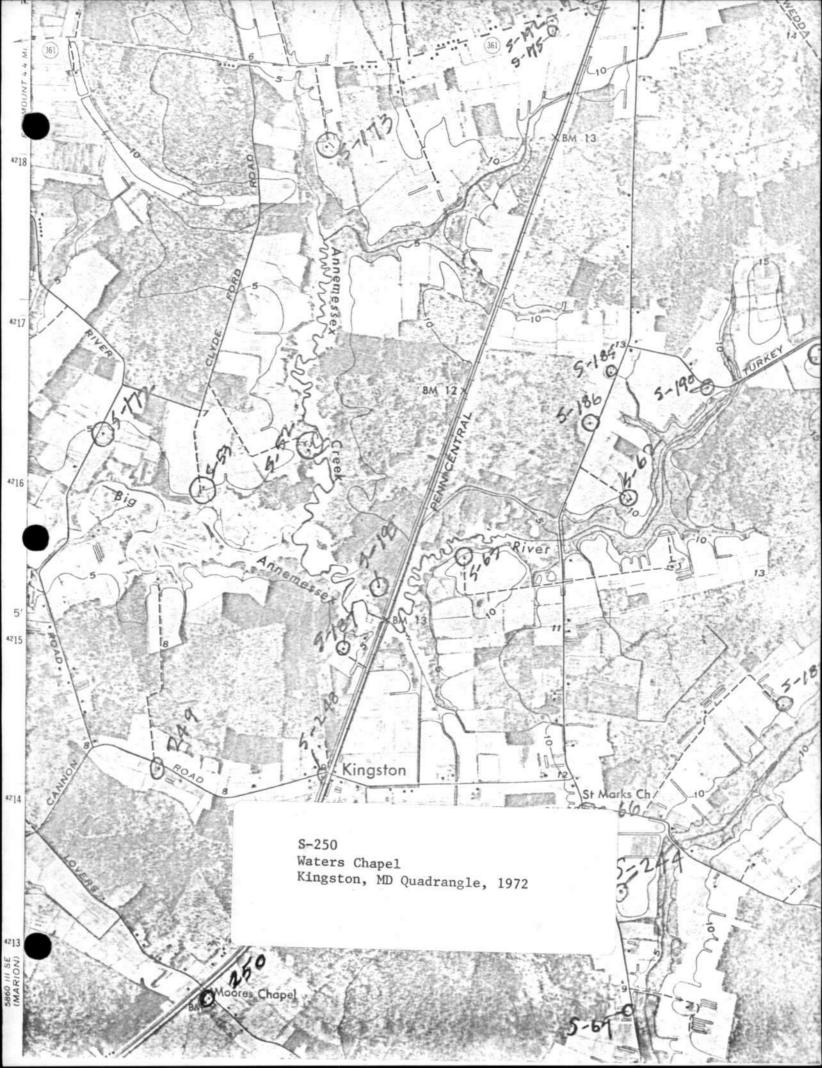
(301) 269-2438

### 7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

The sanctuary is one large rectangular room with the altar and choir stalls located under the west shed roof. To the back of the sanctuary is an additional room separated by folding panel doors. This very colorful interior is highlighted by a decorative wooden ceiling comprised of diagonal, horizontal and beaded boards divided into a grid pattern with molding between each panel.

The altar is distinguished by a curved altar railing with turned balusters and an arched opening. A second arch to the right of the altar marks the choir stalls. The space to the left of the altar is enclosed. Surrounding the sanctuary is a beaded board wainscoting.

The church hall is a single-story rectangular frame structure with a gable front entrance. The one-room plan building is lighted by two 6/6 sash that flank the front door and two windows to each side, fierce the SIDE WALLS.





Water's Chape1 S-250
Near Kingston, Somerset County
Southeast Elevation
10/84, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Waters Chapel S-250 Near Kingston, Somerset County West Elevation 10/84, Paul Touart, Photographer Neg./MD Historical Trust



Near Kingston, Somerset County

New Move West Elevation
10/84, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./MD Historical Trust



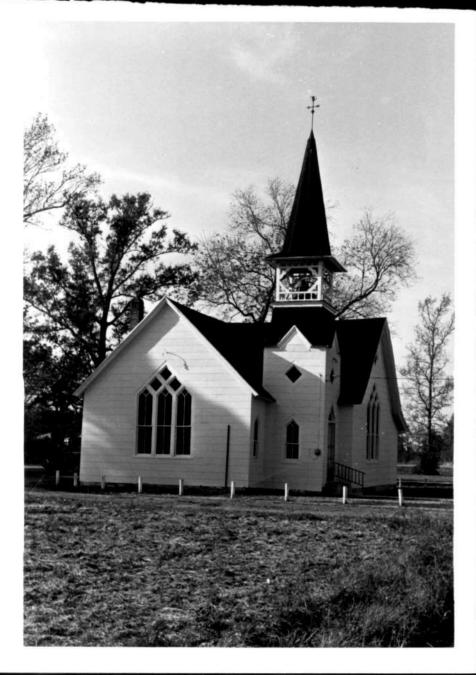
Waters Chapel
Near Kingston, Somerset County
Church Hall
10/84, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./MD Historical Trust



Waters' Chapel S-250 Near Kingston, Somerset County Tower 10/84, Paul Touart, Photographer Neg./MD Historical Trust



Waters Chapel S-250
Near Kingston, Somerset County
Stove Stack
10/84, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./MD Historical Trust



Water's Chapel S-250 Near Kingston, Somerset County Southeast Elevation 10/84, Paul Touart, Photographer Neg/Md.Historical Trust